



Dana E. Blackwell
Executive Director

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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February 8, 2006

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
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Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair Pro Tem
Supervisor Don knabe

Dear Supervisors:

EDUCATION COORDINATING COUNCIL (ECC) BLUEPRINT

The Commission for Children and Families urges the Board's adoption of the ECC Blueprint. It is a strong foundation and beginning to focus the efforts, resources and energy of the county, city, school, and community resources toward improving the educational achievement of foster and probation youth.

The Commission has a long history of concern and involvement with the education of young people from 0-21 years. We believe that the existence of the ECC has started important conversations among the multiple stakeholders who have responsibilities in this area. Commissioners have committed multiple hours to the ECC, its planning group, and its work groups. We are very pleased by the thoroughness of the process and especially impressed by the inclusion of youth, school districts, and caregivers.

The ECC Blueprint with its major recommendations, its short term goals, its specific roles, and responsibilities is a major accomplishment. Its implementation will be daunting task, but we believe the members of the ECC are equal to the task and are very much committed to seeing it through. We believe this has been a model process combining the talents of a consultant team with the passion of the youth, the advocates, school personnel, and County administrators.

Again, we urge you to adopt the ECC Blueprint, as we believe that it is an important first step to improving educational outcomes for our youth.

Respectfully Submitted,



Helen A. Kleinberg
Chair

C: Children's Deputies

Paul Higa, Chief Deputy
Probation Department

Miriam Krinsky, Executive Director
Children's Law Center

Honorable Michael Nash, Presiding Judge
Juvenile Court

David Sanders, Director
DCFS

Virginia Snapp, Acting Chief Deputy
Probation Department

Sharon Watson, Ph.D
ECC

HAK/nb